

Mrs. Doucette  
10/11/10  
ELA

## The Power of Descriptive Characterization in Stories

Authors often create very believable characters, and in the novel The Hunger Games the characters come to life for readers through strong descriptive characterization. Katniss is a dynamic character in The Hunger Games; **moreover**, she discovers within herself a remarkable courage in a very difficult situation. When the government **decrees** a battle to the death for representatives of each district, Katniss demonstrates her courage by taking her little sister's place in the Hunger Games. "With one sweep of my arm, I push her behind me. "I volunteer!" I gasp, "I volunteer as tribute!" (22). **Remarkably**, Katniss must confront adversaries throughout the Hunger Games, but she never succumbs to fear as she fights for her life. **Additionally**, the character of Haymitch comes to life as the reader learns of his faults and weaknesses. **A past tribute in the Hunger Games**, Haymitch must live with the memory of killing innocent children, and in order to cope, Haymitch drinks excessively. "We half-lead half-carry Haymitch back to his compartment. Since we can't exactly set him down on the embroidered bedspread, we haul him into the bathtub and turn on the shower. He hardly notices" (48). **Remorsefully**, Haymitch buries his feelings, and the reader learns that life for this tragic character is anything but happy. **On the other hand**, Peeta is an emotionally healthy and clever companion to Katniss in the Hunger Games. "So the next three days pass with Peeta and me going quietly from station to station. We do pick up some valuable skills, from starting fires, to knife throwing, to making shelter. Despite Haymitch's order to appear mediocre, Peeta excels in hand-to hand combat..." (96). **As the formidable** Hunger Games begin, Peeta's skills prove invaluable to both his and Katniss' survival. A trustworthy friend to Katniss, Peeta's role in The Hunger Games becomes more intriguing as the game of life and death unfolds. **In the end**, authors oftentimes create such interesting characters in novels through descriptive characterization. It is because of this amazing characterization that we as readers often find ourselves longing to revisit a favorite character long after the novels or series is over.

**Notes:**

- Add a clever original title and center this.
- Add a transition to begin both the 3<sup>rd</sup> Proof and the “Say It Again” final conclusion.
- Add a sentence that begins with a subordinating conjunction (dependent clause).  
AAWWUBBIS. Punctuate with a comma after the dependent clause.
- Add a vocabulary word
- Don’t forget a final “COOL” reflective sentence -The “Punch In The Nose!”
- Make sure this is formatted as **one paragraph** and conforms to all requirements for a paper.